



THE MORNING NEWS

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Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

Scenes of war-like destruction in Oslo



OSLO, Norway -- Smoke rises from a building after a powerful bomb blast rocked government and media buildings in Norway's capital Oslo. see story on page 2 (AFP PHOTO)



LIMA, Peru -- Picture of sheets of one hundred US dollar counterfeit bills, sized by Peru's Department of Criminology (Dirincrí), taken as they are presented yesterday to the press in Lima. Over three million fake dollars were seized from an international network of counterfeiters trying to send the bills to the US, police said. (AFP PHOTO)

Island literati posthumously honor Aruban poet Frederico Oduber

An evening of examining the work of island poet Frederico Oduber, who died in Curacao in 2007, was conducted in honor of his memory at the Aruba National Library Archives in Oranjestad this past Thursday evening, nearly 4 years to the day of his passing.

Frederico Oduber's early efforts were published in literary magazines such as Kambio and Watapana, during his days as a student. His first book of poetry to be published was Beseffend, (Being Aware) in 1961 and Putesia followed in 1973. In 1975 his work was included in the collection "Literature of the Antilles," and he regularly contributed to a number of local publications.

At the time of Oduber's death, Editor Henry Habibe described his work as a "valuable and innovative contribution to Papiamentu, without fanfare but eloquent and artistically heartfelt."

Some examples of his work:

"Imagination":

There are days
With the bright sun overhead
I picture my death
How will I die
Rebelliously
Terrified

I also think to myself that
My soul should be armed for a hundred ages
I must die with a heart
Full of memories
And while in agony
With a thousand birds in my throat
With the sweat of fear eating up my tongue
I want to hold on to my memories

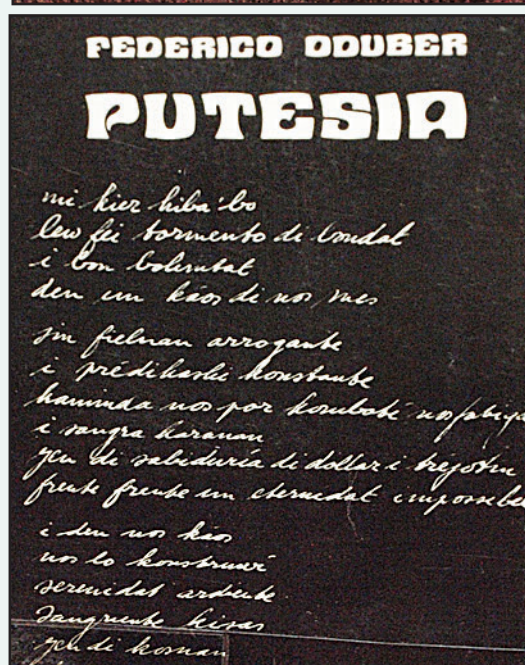
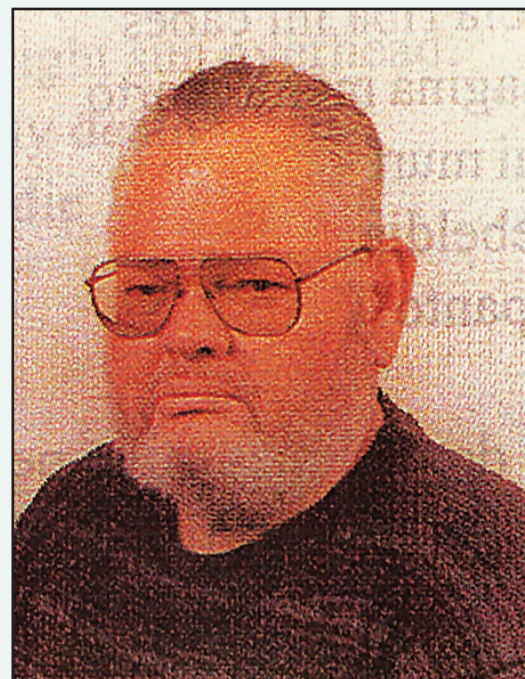
So, when my senses
Fall to pieces
Like dried mud
Hold my hands
Because my hands are connected to my hear
And I simply

Want to gather in my soul all those I love
They will be my weapon
When I die
They will besiege my tongue
They will be in my blood

Just imagine
I want to die armed with love

"I ask you"

Scratch me
with your nails
yell at me
with your eyes



and cover me
with your skin

swallow me
with your mouth
cut my breath off
with your hands

love me, hate me
tempt me, uproot me
quiver on my lips
ban the cold from my blood

and cover me
with your skin

by Rosalie Klein

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

War-like destruction scars heart of Oslo

OSLO, Norway (AFP) - Blast victims lying bleeding on sidewalks sprinkled with shattered glass from disfigured buildings; normally peaceful Oslo resembled a war zone Friday after a powerful bomb tore through its core.

In the blink of an eye the city of half a million, where the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded every year, became a picture of urban desolation with building skeletons left standing after an explosion heard kilometres away.

The windows of Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg's office were blown clear out -- the imposing government tower badly damaged on all sides so that one can see right through the building.

Surrounding buildings were also mangled.

But the normally bustling neighbourhood, which houses several government min-

istries, is much more quiet at this time of year with many people away on holiday.

Police moved quickly Friday to cordon off the area where a black car lay on its side among shards of glass and papers fluttering in the wind.

Building alarms screamed as firemen worked to contain fires and yellow ambulances rushed to the scene.

"There is glass everywhere. It is total chaos. The windows of all the surrounding buildings have been blown out," she said -- at first having thought the city had been hit by an earthquake, Ingunn Andersen, a journalist with public radio NRK said from the scene.

Kilometres away at Utoeya, the idyllic island in an Oslo fjord, a man disguised as a police officer opened fire with an automatic gun as some 600 young people gathered for a summer school meeting of the ruling Labour Party's youth branch.

"A man in police uniform called young people, telling them: 'Come here', and then executed them," a witness told NRK.

Police did say however that they believed the two attacks were connected.

Police arrested a Norwegian disguised as a policeman Justice Minister Knut Storberget said.

The twin shooting and bomb attacks left 17 dead.

James Murdoch faces police probe on hacking

LONDON. (AFP) - A British lawmaker referred James Murdoch to police Friday over claims of misleading parliament on the phone-hacking scandal as Prime Minister David Cameron said the media boss had "questions to answer".

James Murdoch, the chairman of News International, the British newspaper division of his father Rupert's global media empire, has been challenged over evidence he gave to lawmakers on Tuesday.

The development put the spotlight back on the Murdochs just as the scandal seemed to be spreading to other British newspapers, having already dragged in the police and politicians, even embroiling Cameron himself.

During a tense appearance with his father before parliament's media scrutiny committee, James Murdoch said

that when authorising an out-of-court settlement to a voice-mail hacking victim, he was unaware of an email that suggested knowledge of hacking at the now-shuttered News of the World went wider than one rogue reporter.

In a statement late Thursday, Colin Myler, the last editor of the News of the World, who lost his job when the it closed earlier this month, and Tom Crone, the former News International legal manager, who resigned last week, said they had informed James Murdoch of the email before he authorised the payment to Gordon Taylor, chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA).

James Murdoch has denied giving misleading evidence, saying: "I stand by my testimony to the select committee."

Obama gives final approval to let gays serve in military



During the San Diego gay pride parade July 16, 2011 in California.

WASHINGTON.(AFP) - US President Barack Obama certified Friday that the US military was ready to accept openly gay troops after a lengthy battle to lift a ban that forced gay soldiers to hide their sexuality.

"Today, we have taken the final major step toward ending the discriminatory 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' law that undermines our military readiness and violates American principles of fairness and equality," Obama said in a statement.

His statement came after he signed a certification with Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and the top US military officer, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen, that the US military was ready to accept gay troops.

The repeal of the ban, dubbed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," will now come into force in 60 days' time, on September 20.

The ban was overturned in a law adopted in December that first required the top military officer, the defense secretary and the president to certify that the change would

not harm military readiness and that the armed forces were ready to carry it out.

In the interim, the Pentagon has drawn up new manuals and prepared the entire armed forces, some 2.3 million people who serve as both active troops and reservists, for the new policy.

"As of September 20th, service members will no longer be forced to hide who they are in order to serve our country," Obama said.

"Our military will no longer be deprived of the talents and skills of patriotic Americans just because they happen to be gay or lesbian."

Former soldiers and gay rights groups have fought for years to overturn the ban, which was introduced in 1993 as a compromise after military chiefs rejected a bid by former president Bill Clinton to open the doors to gay soldiers.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" required gay troops to keep quiet about their sexual orientation or face expulsion from the forces, and since 1993, an estimated 14,000 service members have been kicked out of the military under the rule.

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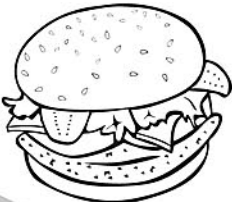
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Cuban Curator signs accord with Minister of Culture for 1st Biennale of Contemporary Art to take place in Aruba

Recently, Mr. Jose Manuel Nocede Fernandez from Cuba, together with board members of the 'Encuentro Prome Bienal di Aruba' foundation, signed an accord with Minister of Economic and Social Affairs and Culture, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar. This confirms the Minister's support of the project: "Prome Encuentro Bienal Arte Contemporaneo di Caribe, Aruba 2011-2012" – 1st Caribbean Biennale of Contemporary Art, Aruba 2011-2012.

Mr. Nocede Fernandez is here on a work visit to help with the organizing of the biennale, which will be the first ever conducted on Aruba. He gave the Minister ample explanation of the latest development concerning the Biennale, and she expressed her satisfaction with the preparations and progress for the event, which will take place at Paradera 213.

Photos show Minister Hooyboer-Winklaar, Jose Manuel Nocede Fernandez, Alice van Romondt, Alida Martinez and Roly Sint Jago.



Aruba Central Bank announces monetary policy July 2011

ORANJESTAD -- During the meeting of its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of July 6, 2011, the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) concluded that, based upon available economic data, the current reserve requirement rate of 11 percent and the advance rate percentage of 1 percent is adequate.

In its evaluation, the MPC took into consideration Aruba's net foreign assets position, which decreased somewhat in May 2011 (-1.0 percent). Nevertheless, based on the current available information, the CBA expects an overall positive development



for the remainder of 2011, due to the positive outlook for increased foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows and tourism receipts, as well as the resumed refining activity in the oil sector.

Net domestic assets continued to be impaired by weak credit demand. Aggregate outstanding credit at the commercial banks contracted

by 0.6 percent in comparison to December 2010, predominantly related to declines in consumer credit and business loans, of, respectively, 2.6 percent and 0.8 percent. Other indicators included in the MPC's assessment were the developments in inflation and liquidity in the banking sector, which all remained within a range that the CBA considers acceptable.

The CBA will continue to closely follow the developments in the economic and monetary fundamentals. The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled for August 26, 2011.

Go Move your body with MANA in a creativity and expression workshop

ORANJESTAD -- The Department of Culture (DCA) in their intent to contribute to the development of culture on Aruba, recently joined forces with a tremendous project, dubbed... "Move your body!"

The "Move your Body" project is actually an initiative of the National Archaeological Museum of Aruba and encompasses their 2011 school vacation plan. DCA applauded the Museum for their excellent initiative. The project started off with a fantastic celebration on Friday July 8th. Several Ministers of government were on hand to dispel the darkness by switching on the light which illuminated the mural painted by young people from San Nicolaas and Oranjestad. The painting project was under the guidance of Timothy Charles.

Local artist and general counselor, Frank Croes assisted with the painting of the mural. The illumination of the mural was followed by the inauguration of an art exposition

of art works created by some talented local young people.

On Wednesday 13th the project continued in a festive atmosphere in the Fort Zoutman where leader of the Section for Implementation, Mr. Jhon Freddy Montoya, met with the young people to begin work on positive aspects for their development and formation. Montoya's session with the young people was in the format of a creative and artistic workshop. In this workshop, our young people had ample space to work, freely expressing themselves in as many areas as they pleased, to name a few:

Dance, theater, music, visual art, corporal expression and creativity. This was done in an effort to allow every young person the freedom to play, discover, express, create and work in groups, and to gain more self assuredness, confidence and imagination.

The primary objectives of the workshop were:

Continued on page 5



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A very personal evolution for island artist Danilo Geerman explored in "Transmutation"



Danilo with centerpiece work

The Westin Art Gallery is proud to host for the next 2 months an exhibition by Aruban artist Danilo Geerman titled "Transmutation." The

newest collection opened to the public in the Palm Beach Resort on Thursday evening, July 21 with an appreciative analysis by noted artist and



Heart, Growing Cells and Roots.

teacher, Nigel Matthew, who pointed out how appropriate is the name of this present exhibit, as it reflects extensive personal evolution on the part of the artist since he first began showing his work in 1986.

This is Danilo's first solo show since "Between Heaven & Earth" in 2008 at the Toyota Gallery. He continues to explore a surrealistic style which captured his creativity a few years ago and revealed with a solo show titled "Tree of Life" at Access Art Gallery in 2007. In his dissertation on the subject, Danilo describes the ori-

gins of the world transmutation "the altering of one species into another," as coined by Jean Baptiste Lamarck in 1809, and that transmutation and transformation are words often interchanged; "the early 19th century evolutionary ideas played an important role in the history of evolutionary thought."

A number of the works could be interpreted as cells or objects going through such a process, but the concept has greater significance applied to Danilo's creative journey; a journey Nigel asserts is evident

in this newest collection.

Danilo Geerman is an accomplished local artist with 7 successful solo shows to his credit and several group exhibitions in Aruba and Holland. His newest effort is on display 24/7 in the Westin Gallery, just next to the concierge desk in the main lobby of the resort. A gallery representative is present every Wednesday and Friday in the late afternoon if wishing to purchase one of the works, or call 743-4080 or 587-0004 for inquiries.

by Rosalie Klein





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Go Move your body ...

Continued from page 3

- Increase the youngster's corporal conscience
- Develop confidence in their talent and creativity
- Facilitate working in groups
- Awaken all the senses: hearing, feeling, sight, taste, smell and to discover their receptivity to these
- Develop their confidence and capacity to move, create and express themselves through theatrical and rhythmic games
- Work on their expression, verbal and nonverbal communication
- Reinforce their confidence in corporal art and gestures: moving from expression up to creation
- Explore their imagination through different methods, utilizing objects, music, sound, images, voice and history
- Learn the art of improvising and creating text and using one's body, words, movement, and free expression

At the end of the workshop the young were all very pleased and satisfied with what they had experienced and learned. They suggested this be done more often.

DCA praised the organizers for their excellent work. Congratulations were in order for the winners of the Arte di Palabra of Aruba and Curacao as well as for the winners of the Youth Competition: Gang di Arte – Osvaldo Correa, Junior Tromp, Josef Wever who participated actively in this extremely valuable project.

Ecuador newspapers in protest over libel ruling

QUITO, Ecuador (AFP) - Ecuadorian newspapers yesterday protested heavy sentences handed down on four journalists found guilty of libeling President Rafael Correa, leaving pages blank or printing in almost invisible ink.

Columnists on the daily El Comercio left their columns blank in protest, under a headline "Without Words," saying they were doing so in solidarity with the four journalists

from El Universo.

An Ecuadorian judge Wednesday convicted El Universo senior managers Carlos, Cesar and Nicolas Perez and their former editorial page editor Emilio Palacio of libel, sentencing them to three years in jail and ordered them to pay Correa some \$40 million in damages.

The ruling has unleashed a storm on national and international protests by rights groups

and media watchdogs with Human Rights Watch Americas director Jose Miguel Vivanco calling it a "major setback for free speech in Ecuador."

Journalists on the daily Hoy de Quito also protested the sentences by publishing their articles in an ink that was barely visible.

Correa filed the lawsuit in March after Palacio wrote a column calling the president a




"dictator," and warning he could be tried for rights abuses for allegedly ordering supporters to open fire against a hospital during a September 2010 police mutiny. Five people were killed in the standoff.


Correa said Thursday that he would appeal the ruling, and would ask for the fine to be doubled to 80 million dollars. El Universo is also going to appeal.


Amnesty International said

meanwhile yesterday that the sentence "will have a chilling effect on freedom of expression in the country."

"This harsh sentence is an attack on the right to free speech for everyone in Ecuador, and will discourage journalists from engaging in legitimate criticism of the government," said Guadalupe Marengo, Amnesty's deputy Americas director.

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Sci-Tech

Caribbean states want end of nuclear waste shipments

GUYANA — The Caribbean Community (Caricom) warned Wednesday of an impending shipment of British radioactive waste through the Caribbean to Japan, and called for an end to what it sees as a dangerous environmental gamble.

While the Guyana-based Caricom headquarters could not say the exact date or name of the ship, the 15-nation regional grouping said such shipments threaten the Caribbean's rich but fragile ecosystem.

Caricom told the Britain, France and Japan that the

practice of shipping hazardous waste through the Caribbean sea risked the existence of the more than 20 million people and is "unacceptable and injurious."

"The environmental, socio-economic and cultural identity of Caricom is dependent on the integrity of the Sea from which the Region takes its name," Caricom said in a statement.

Noting that the Caribbean is recognized by the United Nations as a Special Area in the context of Sustainable Development, Caricom called for an immediate end

to the shipment of nuclear waste through the Caribbean sea.

"This ongoing practice is intolerable to the People and Governments of Caricom. The Community urges all those involved in making these shipments, to halt them immediately," the statement added.

The economies of Caribbean islands are heavily dependent on tourism and fishing for their livelihoods. The coral reefs and vegetation are also major planks of its ecosystem.

NASA picks spot to probe for life on Mars



This artist concept shows NASA's Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity rover

WASHINGTON (AFP) - NASA on Friday announced which crater it has picked for the 2.5 billion dollar Mars rover, Curiosity, to probe for signs of life when the unmanned vehicle is lowered onto the red planet next year.

The six-wheeled mechanical science lab will explore a crater called Gale, which contains a mountain and will help scientists study clay and sulfate deposits at various heights.

No one expects the rover, also known as the Mars Science Laboratory (MSL), to actually find living beings there, just signs that that some microbial life may have existed in the depths of a crater that may have contained water.

NASA has previously sent the Spirit and Opportunity rovers to explore Mars and has set its sights on sending humans there by 2030.

Central America launches its 'Google' of weather

COSTA RICA -- Officials launched a database Thursday they dubbed the "Google of Central American weather," designed to predict natural disasters as the region grapples with devastating consequences blamed on climate change.

Technical director Norman Avila said the project will

gather information from 150 stations in seven countries and has already accumulated decades of historical data.

The shared information will pave the way for improved forecasts of hurricanes and other severe weather.

"Extreme hydrometeorological phenomena are the main threat to Central Amer-

ica," said Patricia Ramirez, head of the Regional Water Resources Committee based in Costa Rica, the organization in charge of developing the database.

The database aims to help the agricultural sector, which has been badly damaged by severe weather in recent years.

"The challenge of climate change is how we prepare the region to better address this problem to reduce the risks," said El Salvador's Environmental Minister Herman Rosa Chavez.

Agriculture is the largest contributor to Central America's GDP and also the biggest job creator in the region.

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Health & Living

Hangovers



A hangover is a group of unpleasant signs and symptoms that can develop after drinking too much alcohol.

However unpleasant, most hangovers go away on their own, though they can last longer than 24 hours. If you choose to drink alcohol, doing so responsibly can help you avoid future hangovers.

Hangover symptoms typically begin when your blood alcohol drops significantly and is at or near zero. They're usually in full effect the morning after a night of heavy drinking. Depending on what you drank and how much you drank, you may notice:

- *Fatigue
- *Thirst

- *Headaches and muscle aches
- *Nausea, vomiting or stomach pain
- *Poor or decreased sleep
- *Sensitivity to light and sound
- *Dizziness or a sense of the room spinning
- *Rapid heartbeat
- *Bloodshot eyes
- *Shakiness
- *Decreased ability to concentrate
- *Mood disturbances, such as depression, anxiety and irritability

Hangovers go away on their own. Talk with your doctor if you're concerned that frequent, heavy drinking or hangovers are affecting your quality of life, including your personal relationships or your performance at work. Treatment for alcohol abuse or dependence is available.

Colombia bans sales of loose cigarettes, tobacco adverts

BOGOTA.(AFP)-A ban on sales of loose cigarettes and tobacco advertising went into effect Thursday in Colombia, the health ministry said.

The clampdown is part of an anti-tobacco law approved by Congress in June 2009, following a ban on smoking in enclosed public places in May 2008.

Cigarettes can now only be sold in packets of 10 or more

and tobacco companies are no longer allowed to advertise, including on foreign TV channels broadcasting in the country.

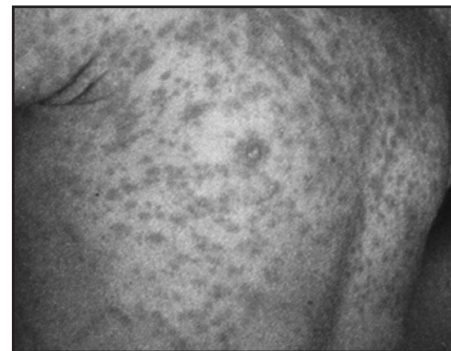
All cigarette packets must also carry health warnings.

At least five million adults out of a population of some 46 million are regular smokers in Colombia, according to official estimates.

Some 25,000 people die each year from one or some of the 15 types of cancer linked to cigarette smoking, anti-tobacco law supporter Senator Dilian Francisca Toro told Caracol radio.

Last May, the multi-national group British American Tobacco acquired Protabaco, the second largest cigarette company in Colombia, for \$452 million.

Mexico vaccinates against measles after toddler case



The 18-month-old girl showed symptoms of the disease, including fever and a cough, five days after arriving in Mexico on July 10 from France.

The Mexico City neighborhood where she was staying was placed on a health watch this week while

MEXICO CITY.(AFP)-Mexican health officials stepped up a vaccination campaign against the measles Friday after a French toddler became Mexico's first case of the disease in four years.

"There's no need for alarm, but we're asking for co-operation from everybody, particularly those who have not been vaccinated," Health Minister Jose Angel Cordoba told Televisa television Friday.

vaccination booths for the highly-contagious disease appeared at the international airport Friday.

"Everyone under 39 who has not had measles must be vaccinated as well as children under 12 who have not had a first vaccination," Cordoba said.

The last indigenous case of measles in Mexico was detected 14 years ago and the last case from a foreign country was in 2007, he added.

Fifth 'sabotage' patient dies in British hospital

LONDON.(AFP)-Police questioned a 27-year-old nurse Friday after a fifth patient died at a British hospital where detectives fear saline solution was deliberately contaminated with insulin.

Police arrested Rebecca Leighton Wednesday on suspicion of murder over the deaths of three patients given the contaminated solution at Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport, outside Manchester in northwest England.

Police believe someone deliberately tampered with a batch of saline and nine other patients may also have been affected. One of them, a 41-year-old man, has been described as being in a critically ill condition.

Investigators will also be reviewing previous deaths at the hospital for any evidence of foul play.

An 83-year-old man had died earlier Thursday, while an 84-year-old woman had died on July 14, he said. Her case was referred to the police

following medical procedures.

She was arrested at her home on Wednesday. Officers removed bags of items from her flat.

Detectives have always linked the deaths of a 44-year-old woman and two men aged 84 and 71 to the contamination.

But detectives would also look back at previous deaths at the hospital, he added.

Hopkins said they were now awaiting the results of post mortems on the two latest deaths.

Police were called in last week after a nurse reported a higher than normal number of patients on her ward with "unexplained" low blood sugar levels, pointing to saline ampoules being sabotaged.

Officers found insulin had contaminated a batch of 36 saline ampoules in a hospital store room.

At the hospital, medics are working in pairs to check and administer drugs.

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Kerry and Edward-James united in Matrimony on Eagle Beach



On Saturday, July 16th 2011, Kerry Foley and Edward-James Karen were pronounced Husband and Wife.

This was the couple's 3rd trip to Aruba, and all previous experiences had been wonderful, so why not seal their love at this beautifully calm relaxing Island, Aruba?

Kerry and Edward-James fell in love with Eagle Beach on their first visit, and decided that this would be THE place to say "I Do."

The couple expressed that everything was exactly as they had imagined, thanking Anne Maduro & Lissy Lampe for all their help in making their dream come true.

The festivities continued with dining and dancing at Passions on the Beach Restaurant.

The Morning News, Ms. Anne Maduro and Mrs. Lissy Lampe extend their best wishes to Kerry and Edward-James Karen.

Mulligan's Terrace offers FREE ZUMBA Saturday morning



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Aby Sneek-Smith, earns Headmaster's Award for Academic Excellence at ISA

Aby-Sneek Smith graduated the International School of Aruba just recently and was recognized for academic excellence in AP English, Chemistry and Calculus, earning him the overall Headmasters Award for Academic Excellence, for the class of 2011.

While at school Aby was a member of the National Honor Society and served as class President in 2010. He is one of the few ISA graduates who have started their education at the school with kindergarten, and completed their uninterrupted academic journey, as a graduating senior.

Aby is preparing to attend Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne Florida, on a 50% academic scholarship. He will be majoring in Chemical Engineering with a focus on renewable energy, setting his sights on a career with one of the major chemical companies, such as Dow



and/or DuPont, where he is planning to serve as a second semester intern.

Aby is seen in the picture receiving his certificate of ac-

ademic excellence flanked by Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman, who was the evening's key note speaker, also entrusted with the honor of recognizing star students, and the school's representative, at the Hyatt Regency Ballroom, during the year end graduation celebration.

Aby's step Dad Rob Smith of the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa and his wife Diana, Aby's mom and three sisters, are proud of Aby's accomplishments and his motivation to excel.

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Dream, Dare, Do!



The project Dream, Dare, Do - created by two students Daniela Ramos and Lieke Rietkerk, and with the cooperation of 'Popcorn Club' already resulted in a huge success. The Popcorn Club is a foundation, dedicated to motivate our Aruban youth to walk on the right path of life.

The organizers are still looking for participants for the July 23-24 weekend, everyone between 13 and 19 years old are welcome. Participants will get an impression about culture activities like theatre, songwriting, dances and modeling. Admission is FREE!

Persons interested to sign up for the project can call Daniela Ramos at cel. 5635398 or Lieke Rietkerk at cel. 5603086

At 9:00 a.m., there will be a bus at the Department of Culture in Oranjestad to transport the youngsters to the Scol di Arte in San Nicolas and back to Oranjestad at 6:00 p.m.

For more information about this project, please visit the website www.dreamdaredo.info or sent an e-mail to dreamdaredo.aruba@gmail.com



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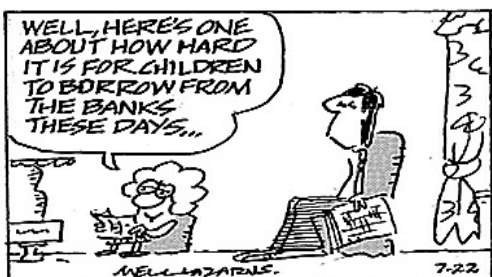
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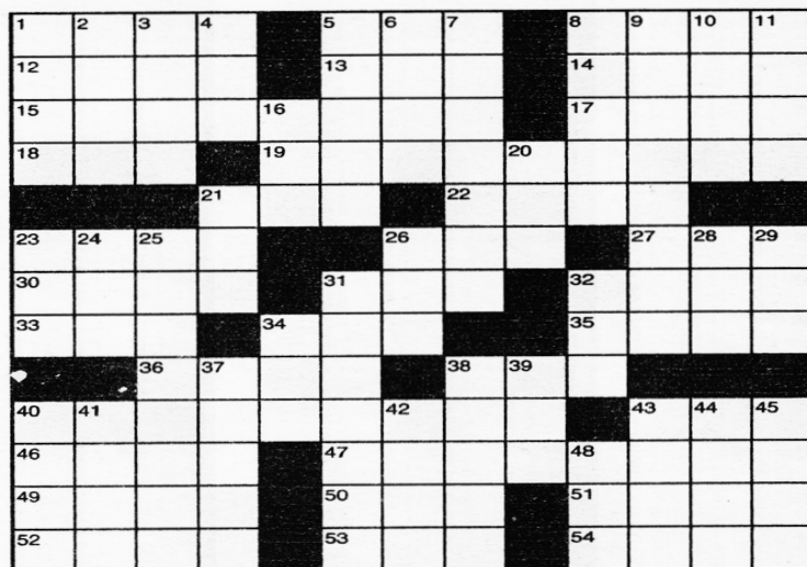
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ACROSS

1. "Thin Man" canine
5. Spanish affirmatives
8. Wharton grads
12. Rowboat emergency
13. Unit of weight
14. Director Kazan
15. Yankee Doodle's "feather"
17. Microscopic
18. From ___ Z (2 wds.)
19. Pachyderms
21. Big monkey
22. Furrier's item
23. And others (2 wds.)
26. Four-star officer (abbr.)
27. Use a microwave, informally
30. Kilmer and others
31. Eliminate
32. Actor Arnaz
33. Snake-like fish
34. Dearie
35. "SportsCenter" channel
36. Jerky thrust
38. ___ Tin Tin
40. Frog, e.g.
43. Hoover's org.
46. Low poker hand
47. Long letters

DOWN

49. Puerto ___
50. Director Howard
51. Provoke
52. Seattle ___ (racehorse)
53. Gridiron measures (abbr.)
54. Feminine suffix
1. ___ mater
2. County capital
3. Burrito's kin
4. Wanted poster initials
5. Purloined
6. Actress Skye
7. Clipped
8. Heavy ___
9. Cheese-filled pancakes
10. "Am not," slangily
11. Announces
16. Dem.'s foe
20. Female chicken
21. Pacino and Roker
23. Eden female
24. Edison's inits.
25. Mildly sharp flavoring
26. Card game
28. Egyptian cobra
29. Tailor's tool
31. Larceny
32. Cozy place
34. "Bali ___"
37. ___ pillow



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38. Drizzles
39. ___ and outs
40. Showery mos.
41. Post
42. MP3 player from Apple
43. Move about quickly
44. Jarring blow
45. "___ the light!" (2 wds.)
48. Three, in Roma

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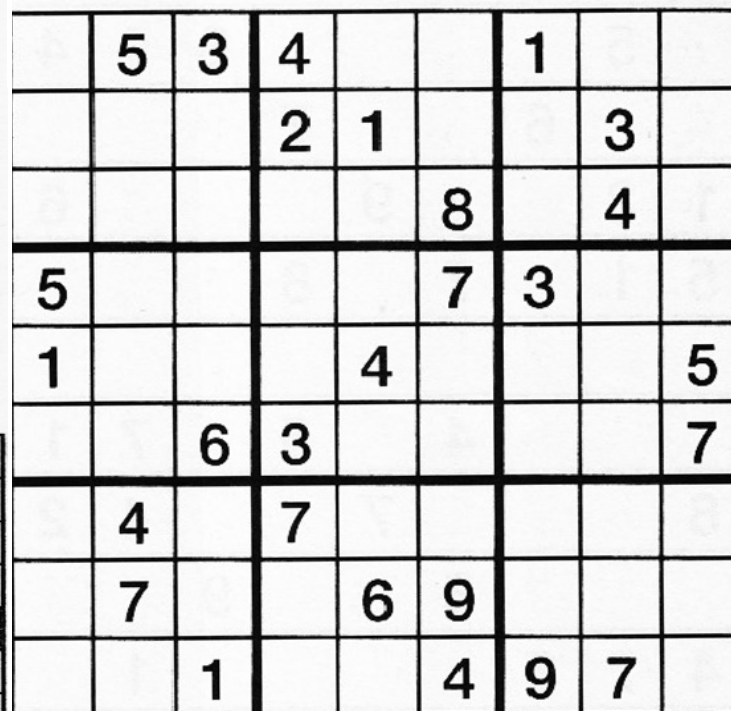
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

8	2	6	4	8	9	1	2	9
4	9	2	6	9	1	8	2	8
1	9	8	8	2	2	9	4	6
2	8	4	1	9	8	9	6	2
9	6	9	2	4	8	2	8	1
2	1	8	2	6	9	4	8	9
9	4	9	8	8	6	2	1	2
8	8	2	9	1	2	6	9	4
6	2	1	9	2	4	8	9	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Top US Republican: Debt deal 'not close'

WASHINGTON. (AFP) - Republican US House Speaker John Boehner warned Friday that he and President Barack Obama were "not close" to a deal to avert a ruinous early August debt default and forecast a "hot weekend" of talks.

With time running out before August 2, when the cash-strapped government of the world's richest nation will be unable to pay all of its bills, top economic officials huddled to weigh the implications of an unprecedented default.

But Obama assured a town hall-style audience at the University of Maryland just outside Washington that "the United States of America

does not run out without paying the tab."

"We have never defaulted on our debt. We're not going to do it now," said Obama, who has called for deficit cuts in the trillions of dollars in connection to raising the US debt limit from its current \$14.3 trillion.

But Boehner dismissed news reports on Thursday that the two sides were closing in a plan for steep spending cuts and reductions in health and retirement benefits programs and plans for a tax overhaul.

Finance and business leaders have warned failure to raise the US debt ceiling by then would send shock waves

through the world economy, while Obama has predicted a default would trigger economic "Armageddon."

US Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, Federal Reserve Bank Chairman Ben Bernanke, and New York Federal Reserve Bank President William Dudley met at the US Treasury Department to discuss the effects of a default.

For a second straight day, Senate Democrats' frustration with Obama boiled over after news reports suggested he had offered Boehner to forego hiking tax revenues while accepting cuts in social safety net programs dear to his party.

Mixed earnings hold back US stocks

NEW YORK (AFP) - Mixed earnings reports -- with General Electric and McDonald's beating expectations, while Caterpillar fell short -- held back US markets Friday, though Microsoft gave Nasdaq a solid boost.

Caterpillar's poor quarter helped knock the Dow Jones Industrial Average of 30 blue chips off 43.25 points (0.34 percent) to close at 12,681.16.

The broader S&P 500 added 1.22 points (0.09 percent) to 1,345.02, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite jumped 24.40 points (0.86 percent) to stand at 2,858.83.

"Markets ended the week in a mixed mood, cheered by earnings that have generally beat expectations and a plan to

address the sovereign debt woes in Europe, but suffering from trepidation with a lack of resolution on an agreement regarding the US debt ceiling," said analysts at Charles Schwab.

US industrial bellwether Caterpillar said second-quarter profits surged 44 percent from a year ago to \$1.01 billion.

But the results fell short of Wall Street expectations and sent its stock plummeting 5.8 percent to \$105.15, dragging down the Dow index.

Closely watched GE said its second-quarter profit rose 21 percent from a year ago to \$3.76 billion, beating analysts' forecasts, while McDonald's profit rose 15 percent to \$1.41 billion.

Obama seeks Pacific trade framework by November

WASHINGTON. (AFP) - US President Barack Obama voiced hope Friday that nine nations negotiating a trans-Pacific trade agreement will reach a deal in time for a summit of Asian leaders in his native Hawaii in November.

Meeting with New Zealand's Prime Minister John Key, a strong advocate of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, Obama said negotiators were hard at work at working out the details of the deal.

"We hope to have a framework agreement by the time that we go to Honolulu for the



US President Barack Obama (R) speaks to New Zealand's Prime Minister John Key in the Oval Office at the White House

APEC meeting," Obama told reporters in the Oval Office, referring to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership involves Australia, Brunei, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United States and Vietnam.

The Obama administration has billed the Trans-Pacific Partnership as a new genre of trade deal that pays attention to labor and environmental standards.

Obama had been a critic of trade deals negotiated during George W. Bush's presidency with South Korea, Colombia

and Panama. The Obama administration renegotiated the pacts and now supports them, but has struggled to Congress approval for them.

Obama has set a goal of doubling exports to spur growth in the troubled US economy. But the AFL-CIO, the largest US labor confederation and usually a supporter of Obama's Democratic Party, opposes the trade pacts and argues they benefit corporations instead of workers.

Key has strongly supported trade deals involving New Zealand, a major food exporter.

Greek bailout boosts oil market

NEW YORK. (AFP) - World oil prices climbed on Friday boosted by news of a second bailout deal for Greece which dampened concerns that the eurozone debt crisis would sap global energy demand.

New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) light, sweet crude for delivery in September, closed at \$99.87 a barrel, up 74 cents from late Thursday.

Earlier it surged to \$100.19, the highest level since June.

In London Brent North Sea crude for September delivery gained \$1.16 a barrel to settle at \$118.67.

Traders credited the deal reached by eurozone leaders and private creditors Thursday to give Greece a new 159-billion-euro (\$229-billion) bailout, to prevent the debt crisis from spreading worldwide.

"The plan... provided more

measures to stimulate the Greek economy and to intervene to support other nations before a crisis might develop," said Sueden analyst Brenda Sullivan.

In recent weeks, doubts over a new Greek eurozone bailout had sparked fears of a possible slump in European and global energy demand.

"Energy markets seemed to wait almost all week for Thursday's Greek aid deal," Sullivan said.

Phillip Streible of Lind-Waldock in New York cited numerous bullish signals for oil prices.

"I would not be surprised if we get to around \$105."

Streible said confidence that US politicians will soon overcome their impasse over raising the debt ceiling ahead of the August 2 make-or-break date could have added to buying.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

DAN	SAM	EDNA
USO	CRAB	MOBS
DIVORCEE	BECK	
BAH	TVA	
EPSOM	STIRRUP	
RITE	STOCKADE	
IVY	DEARS	IDA
COLLECTS	USES	
STEEPLE	THERE	
STU	BIO	
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The Queen's offers an authentic taste of Aruba!

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban restaurant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Inno-cencia confesses she opened her restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cuisine, "Keshi Yena"- "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the Harbor at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu; made from whatever is in season.



Keshi Yena with plantains & vegetables

We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

Buster's Garage in South Beach Center: One place for the whole family

Buster's Garage, a New York City landmark, made its way to Aruba about a year ago, and found a new home at the South Beach Center across from the Radisson Resort. Dedicated to the sports fanatic, the spacious but homey interior is the perfect place to keep up with your favorite team and have a great meal.

Fun for all the family, Buster's has typical sport bar fare such as chicken wings, quesadillas, calamari rings for munching while watching the main event on 24 giant plasma screens. Every seat is good seat for catching all the action. Open from noon for lunch or dinner, it has plenty of distractions for the younger crowd, including foosball, and a video arcade, so Mom and Dad can relax and enjoy their meal.

The moderately priced menu includes all your favorite finger foods and a great selection of local and imported beers. Customer reviews gave Buster's Garage 4.5 stars out of 5 on yellowpages-aruba.com; one declared "my wife and I happened to stumble upon it -but what a find!" Another stated "Owner Rusty is so down to earth. The food was very good and the prices were outstanding for the High-Rise area. Aruba needed a place like this."

Buster's regularly organizes special events with live music. At 10 p.m. it turns into a cozy adult hangout; 18 years and over only allowed, with a DJ on duty nightly and boasting the only beerpong table on Aruba. Aside from a great place to root for the home team or your favorites during playoffs and championships,



they regularly carry all UFC fights & WWE events.

Buster's is a great place where island visitors and residents mix and mingle; Monday to Thursday they close at 2:00 a.m., weekends at 4:00 a.m.

Wyclef Jean honored for making Haiti 'proud'

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti - President Michel Martelly has bestowed a distinguished title upon one of Haiti's most famous sons, Wyclef Jean, for his work as a roving ambassador for the troubled Caribbean nation.

Wyclef, 41, a Haitian-American who rose to fame as the frontman of hip hop group the Fugees, was made a Grand Officer of the National Order of Honor and Merit in a ceremonial Wednesday at the presidential palace in Port-au-Prince.

Wyclef, who had his own bid for the presidency denied last year for residency reasons but then strongly backed Martelly, played a key role in keeping attention on Haiti after the devastating January 2010 earthquake.

The singer aided projects through his Yele Haiti Foundation and has brought in a steady stream of Hollywood stars, including Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie and Matt Damon, to keep the desperate plight of Haitians in the media spotlight.

"I have great joy in



Wyclef Jean

solemnly honoring a son of this earth who has assumed with force, conviction and hu-

manity, his Haitian quality," Martelly said.

This distinction is awarded "as a sign of the utmost appreciation for his dedication to the promotion of Haiti across the world," he said.

Martelly praised Wyclef for his initiatives to help the estimated 1.3 million Haitians -- one in eight of the population -- rendered homeless by the quake, which killed more than 225,000 people, according to official figures.

"You are one of the Haitians who make us proud," the pres-

ident said.

Wyclef, who was made a roving ambassador for Haiti in 2007 to help improve its image abroad, moved to the United States with his family at the age of nine. His uncle Raymond Joseph served as Haiti's ambassador to the US.

Martelly is struggling to form a government two months after being sworn in and faces a huge task to rebuild a nation shattered by decades of misrule, the 2010 earthquake and a lingering cholera epidemic.

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Russia's Bolshoi plans October gala reopening

MOSCOW. (AFP)-Russia's Bolshoi Theatre is to finally reopen on October 28 with a lavish ballet and opera gala after a six-year closure for a sometimes fraught restoration, its general director said on Friday.

The theatre, a landmark of Moscow built in the 1820s, closed in 2005 and was due to reopen in 2008, but the opening was repeatedly postponed. In the interim the company has been performing at the smaller "New Stage" theatre nearby.

General director Anatoly Iksanov told reporters the first

performance would be a gala by the opera and ballet troupes on October 28.

The first theatrical performance will be a production opening November 2 of Glinka's opera "Ruslan and Lyudmila" directed by Dmitry Chernyakov, a director in demand worldwide whose modern productions have been major Bolshoi hits.

This will be followed on November 18 by Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Sleeping Beauty" in an updated production by the legendary former Bolshoi ballet supremo Yuri Grigorovich.

The first singer to test the theatre's new acoustics was none other than great Spanish tenor Placido Domingo, currently in Moscow to preside over an international opera competition, he revealed.

"He got on stage, decided to see how a voice sounds after the reconstruction and sang part of an aria from (Tchaikovsky's) 'The Queen of Spades'," Iksanov said.

The theatre's famous chandelier-studded interior dates back to 1856 when it reopened after an extensive fire and Iksanov said acoustics were now back to their former glory after being damaged in Soviet times.

"The Bolshoi Theatre had problems with acoustics because of a concrete floor that was placed under the audience and half of the stage. This has been removed, replaced with wood and the acoustics of 1856 restored," Iksanov said.

Iksanov said the restored theatre would also see a performance by the choir and orchestra of Milan's La Scala conducted by Daniel Barenboim under a deal that will also see guest performance by the Italian ballet troupe.

Performances will continue at the New Stage theatre, although some productions mounted there will be moved back to their historic home.

Officials have said the works have cost at least \$800 million (580 million euros), and the main contractor was replaced in 2009 after costs grew 16-fold from the original budgeted sum.

But hopes are high for the artistic standards in the new theatre, with the ballet troupe showing a new dynamism and embracing modern choreography and the Bolshoi opera increasingly ready to use daring modern productions.

Beatles photos from first US tour fetch \$360,000



A Christie's auction house employee adjusts a previously unseen photograph of the first US performance of The Beatles at the Washington Coliseum in 1964 by Mike Mitchell.

NEW YORK. (AFP)-A group of pictures from the first tour of the United States by The Beatles in 1964 has been sold at auction for \$361,938, Christie's auction house said.

Wednesday's sale of 46 pictures snapped by photographer Mike Mitchell topped expectations for Christie's which had priced them at about \$100,000.

Mitchell followed the Fab Four as Beatlemania was exploding across the United States, including at their first US concert at the Washington Coliseum on February 11, 1964, days before their famous appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show.

"The concert given at the Washington Coliseum was part of a defining moment in the Beatles' career, and it remains both an important event and a notable place in their story. And Mike Mitchell was there to capture it," according to Christie's.

The black-and-white pictures taken by Mitchell when he was just 18 years old have been filed away for nearly half a century.

Mitchell had exceptional access to the events including

the group's arrival at Union Station, the press conference preceding the performance and unrestricted, stage-front access for the entirety of the Coliseum concert.

Mitchell then snapped additional photographs when The Beatles performed at the Baltimore Civic Center on September 13, 1964.

The most sought-after photograph, in which the Beatles are seen from behind with their silhouettes backlit, was auctioned for \$68,500, well above the estimate of \$2,000 to \$3,000.



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Schleck takes yellow as Rolland wins on Alpe d'Huez



At Left: Andy Schleck of Luxembourg and Team Leopard-Trek celebrates capturing the leaders yellow jersey after Stage 19 Stage winner; at right: France's Pierre Rolland, celebrates on the finish line at the end of the nineteenth stage

ALPE D'HUEZ (AFP) - Frenchman Pierre Rolland of the Europcar team won the 19th stage of the Tour de France, a 109.5 km ride from Modane to the summit of Alpe d'Huez yesterday.

Luxembourg's Andy Schleck, of Leopard-Trek, took possession of the yellow jersey from Frenchman Thomas Voeckler, who lost over two minutes on the final climb of the race.

In a stage marked by dar-

ing attacks from reigning champion Alberto Contador on the first and last climbs of the day, Schleck took the overall lead for the first time in the race by 53secs from his older brother Frank.

However in what could prove to be a fatal blow for the Luxemburgers Australian Cadel Evans, who refused to budge during another epic performance, sits in third place only 57secs off the lead.

Evans is considered the strongest time triallist in the current top ten. The penultimate stage of the race is a 42.5 km time trial around Grenoble today.

Evans pulled himself over the line 56 behind Rolland, and just ahead of the Schleck brothers, after a performance which -- if he triumphs on Saturday -- is likely to play a decisive role in him winning the Tour.

Contador is now sixth overall at 3:55 behind leader Schleck.

Two new suspects arrested in Giants fan attack

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Police have arrested two new suspects in the beating of a San Francisco Giants baseball fan outside Dodger Stadium and believe a man they arrested in May wasn't responsible, the Los Angeles Times reported Thursday.

Previously, LAPD Chief Charlie Beck and other police officials expressed confidence that Giovanni Ramirez, a parolee, was primarily responsible for the beating that left Bryan Stow with severe brain injuries.

Stow, a 42-year-old paramedic and father of two, was wearing Giants gear when he was beaten by two men wearing Los Angeles Dodgers colors after the game between the two clubs on baseball's opening day on March 31.

This week Stow's family said on their website that he recently required emergency surgery after suffering another seizure. He remains in serious condition in a San Francisco hospital.



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Pietersen double ton leaves England on top



Kevin Pietersen of England hits down the ground

LONDON (AFP) - Kevin Pietersen's commanding unbeaten double century left England well on top against India at the close of the second day of the first Test at Lord's on Friday.

India, at stumps, were 17 without loss in reply to England's 474 for eight declared built around Pietersen's 202 not out -- his second double century in seven Tests following his 227 against Australia in Adelaide in December and the third of his

75-match career.

Pietersen, watchful early on but upping the tempo so his final fifty took just 25 balls, batted for eight-and-a-quarter hours in total.

He faced 326 balls and hit a six and 21 fours.

As soon as Pietersen reached his double ton, England captain Andrew Strauss, criticised for being "defensive" by former skipper Michael Vaughan, made an attacking declaration in what was the 2,000th Test and the 100th between the two sides.

However, Abhinav Mukund (eight not out), playing instead of the injured Virender Sehwag and Gautam Gambhir (seven not out) survived until stumps.

It was tough going for India, who were without attack leader Zaheer Khan all day because of the hamstring strain that had forced him off the field on Thursday and who only had four frontline bowlers to start with.

But persevering seamer Praveen Kumar, swinging the ball of a good length, responded with a Test-best return of five for 106 in 40.3 overs.

England, who will replace India at the top of the Test rankings if they win this four-match series by two Tests, resumed Friday on 127 for two after Zaheer had removed openers Alastair Cook and Strauss before breaking down.

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Owners OK deal but players yet to vote

WASHINGTON (AFP) - NFL owners this week approved a tentative agreement to end the lockout that has America's most popular spectator sport in limbo, but players weren't quick to play ball.

League owners, who have been meeting at an Atlanta-area hotel this week, voted 31-0 to accept a proposed 10-year collective bargaining agreement, with the Oakland Raiders abstaining.

"NFL clubs approved today the terms of a comprehensive settlement of litigation and a new 10-year collective bargaining agreement with the NFL Players Association," the league said in a statement.

Players, however, still have to agree to the deal, and after a conference call among player representatives from each team on Thursday they opted to hold off on putting it to a vote.

"Hopefully, we can all work quickly, expeditiously, to get this agreement done,"

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said in announcing the owners' backing of a plan to end the first work stoppage in the league since 1987.

"It is time to get back to football. That's what everybody here wants to do."

Goodell spoke with NFL Players Association chief DeMaurice Smith several times during the day, and informed him of the owners' vote before it was announced.

In an email to the 32 player representatives, however, Smith said there were still issues to be addressed that there is "no agreement" yet between the parties.

In order for the deal to be finalized and become a binding contract between the league and players, the players association must also re-certify as a trade union with the right to negotiate a collective bargaining agreement.

The association de-certified in March after contract talks broke down, paving the way for players to pursue

legal action against the league.

Although the sides appeared to be on the brink of an agreement, Goodell also announced the cancellation of the first scheduled pre-season game, the Hall of Fame game between St. Louis and Chicago on August 7.

The two teams had been originally scheduled to open their training camps this weekend.

Goodell said the Hall of Fame induction ceremonies will go on as scheduled but that "the time is just too short" to have the teams prepare and play the game.

The regular season is scheduled to start on September 8, and cancellation of a pre-season game was a reminder of what could be lost if the dispute drags on long enough to upset the regular-season schedule.

Negotiations on a new contract bogged down in March as billionaire owners and multi-millionaire players were unable to decide how to divide \$9.3 billion in annual revenues -- with players balking at the league's demand to take more off the top.

In addition to the revenue-sharing issue, talks have dealt with a rookie salary system, free agency and retired player benefits. The owners also wanted to expand the season from 16 to 18 games, something that is on hold under the proposed deal until at least 2013.

As progress was made toward a deal, discussions also began on how to settle three pending court cases, including a players' antitrust suit against the league.

The league wants those cases resolved for the proposed deal to be finalized.

Sacked caddie lashes Tiger Woods

WELLINGTON (AFP) - Tiger Woods' sacked caddie Steve Williams said Friday he had lost respect for the former world number one and felt he had wasted two years of his life loyally standing by the scandal-plagued golfer.

Woods announced this week that he has parted company with New Zealander Williams, his bagman for 12 years -- a period when Woods won 13 of his 14 majors.

"Realistically, I could look back and say I've wasted the last two years of my life because he's played infrequently, he's been injured and he's played poorly," Williams told the New Zealand Herald.

Williams said he told Woods after the 2009 scandal broke that he had lost respect for the golfer and that it needed to be earned back.

But he said his opinion of Woods had sunk further following his dismissal.

In a statement released Wednesday on his official website, Woods hailed

Williams as "an outstanding caddie and a friend" but added "it's time for a change".

Williams told the New Zealand Herald that he had "no idea" about Woods' infidelities before the scandal erupted but stayed with him even though his wife was a close friend of the golfer's spouse Erin, who divorced him in 2010.

He described the fallout from the scandal, which sparked a worldwide media frenzy as lurid details of Woods' private life emerged, as the most difficult of his life.

"I'm a stickler for loyalty, I stuck with Tiger through a difficult period when a lot of people thought I should have left his side when things weren't going as they should have been going," he told TVNZ late Thursday.

"I'm not disappointed in the fact that I've got fired, I'm just disappointed in the timing of it, given how loyal I've been to him. That obviously didn't mean much to him."

MLB Standings									
American League					National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB	East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	59	37	.615	--	PHILADELPHIA	61	36	.629	--
NY YANKEES	57	39	.594	2.0	ATLANTA	58	41	.586	4.0
TAMPA	52	45	.536	7.5	NY METS	49	49	.500	12.5
TORONTO	50	49	.505	10.5	WASHINGTON	48	50	.490	13.5
BALTIMORE	39	56	.411	19.5	FLORIDA	47	52	.475	15.0
Central	W	L	Pct	GB	Central	W	L	Pct	GB
DETROIT	52	46	.531	--	PITTSBURG	51	45	.531	--
CLEVELAND	51	46	.526	0.5	MILWAUKEE	53	47	.530	--
CHICAGO	47	51	.480	5.0	ST. LOUIS	51	47	.520	1.0
MINNESOTA	46	52	.469	6.0	CINCINNATI	48	50	.490	4.0
KANSAS	40	58	.408	12.0	CHICAGO	39	60	.394	13.5
West	W	L	Pct	GB	West	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	56	43	.566	--	HOUSTON	33	65	.337	19.0
LA ANGELES	53	46	.535	3.0	SAN FRANCISCO	57	42	.576	--
SEATTLE	43	55	.439	12.5	ARIZONA	53	46	.535	4.0
OAKLAND	43	55	.439	12.5	COLORADO	47	52	.475	10.0
					SAN DIEGO	44	55	.444	13.0
					LA DODGERS	43	55	.439	13.5

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Uruguay vs. Paraguay in Copa final

BUENOS AIRES: Uruguay will bid to claim a record 15th Copa America, eclipsing the 14 titles won by host nation Argentina, by beating Paraguay in Sunday's final at the Monumental.

The Uruguayans cannot compete with the success of their countrymen who won two World Cup and two Olympic crowns in the first half of the last century but, in an era when tactics are much more refined, their recent

achievements are remarkable.

Having eliminated favourites Argentina in the quarterfinals, Uruguay can go one better than their old rivals as far as Copa titles are concerned.

"I think we face a great moment. After a long process of (2010) World Cup qualifiers, the (2010) finals and the Copa America it would be good to crown it with the cup," holding midfielder Egidio Arevalo Rios told re-

porters.

"The effort we made against Argentina was enormous but for this (final) it will be double."

The Uruguayans, fourth at the World Cup a year ago, do not want to be considered favourites even if the odds are stacked against Paraguay who are looking for their third Copa title having won their last in 1979 in Buenos Aires.

"Lots of teams started out as favourites and today they are out. It's not a question of being favourites, you've got to show it on the pitch," said Arevalo Rios.

"No one started well but from the third match (in the group phase) all began to show their best form and will to win the cup. It's been a very hard fought, even cup."

Paraguay enters final without a single victory in five games.

They have reached the final after five draws, having had a day less to prepare, featured in two lots of extra-time including Wednesday's semi-final win over Venezuela in a second successive shootout and seem certain to lose players to injury and suspension.

Uruguay beat Peru 2-0 in normal time in Tuesday's semifinal, striker Luis Suarez notching twice to join Argentina's Sergio Aguero as joint top scorer on three goals.

"To have one more day's rest is fundamental. We've been playing lots of matches and an extra day is key to recovering," said striker Diego Forlan who was voted the World Cup's best player but is looking for his first international goal for a year.

Uruguay have been without Edinson Cavani, a key component of their World Cup attack, since their second group match but have been

boosted by his return to training and he will at least be on the bench for the final.

Paraguay look set to be without striker Roque Santa Cruz and left back Aureliano Torres through injury and banned midfielder Jonathan Santana but central defender Antolin Alcaraz returns from suspension.

Paraguay coach Gerardo Martino will watch the Copa América final from the stands after he was suspended for two games following a brawl at the end of their semi-final win over Venezuela.

Both sides were also fined \$10,000 for the fight which broke out after Paraguay defender Dario Verón scored the winning spot kick to send his side into Sunday's final against Uruguay in Buenos Aires.

Peru and Venezuela, who began the tournament as rank outsiders, meet for third place in La Plata today.

Batista facing chop after Copa flop

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - Coach Sergio Batista faces the chop after his side's Copa America flop after Argentine Football Association (AFA) sources indicated he was losing support, media reports suggested Friday.

"Batista is more out than in," the national news agency Telam quoted an AFA executive committee member as saying, while broadcaster C5N said: "His days are numbered."

The media speculated that Batista, whom the AFA confirmed as being safe for now only last Monday, had lost the support of committee members and forecast a decision would be made Monday in advance of an official announcement Tuesday.

The committee will meet Monday afternoon in Buenos Aires.

Batista himself took to the media to defend himself.

"I recognise there were mistakes (at the Copa) and I am prepared to correct them. I am absolutely resolved to keep going.

"The Copa was not in vain," he insisted, adding that "when changes had to be made I made them."

Batista was vilified in the press for not seeming to know his best team - he chopped and changed after a poor start before Carlos Tevez, whom he dropped after two games, returned to miss the decisive spotkick against Uruguay.

Should Batista be fired names in the frame to succeed him are Paraguay coach Gerardo Martino and also Alejandro Sabella, who as a player had brief stints with Sheffield United and Leeds and who is set to take charge of Al Jazira in the United Arab Emirates.



A combination of images obtained from the Royal Mail shows a set of ten 1st Class stamps that will be issued to celebrate the one year countdown to the London 2012 Olympic Games. The batch of 10 first-class stamps, entitled "Get ready for 2012", will go on sale on July 27, exactly 12 months before the Olympics start.

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